

to refer to layers 164 and 172 of the figures. The Examiner offers two definitions for the term "template". One is serving as a shape pattern similar to a dress pattern and the other refers to epitaxial crystalline growth in which a lattice pattern is replicated in the overlying layer. However, neither of these definitions accurately describes layers 164 and 172 of the instant application. There is nothing in the specification to suggest that the oxide electrode template 164 or 172 is used as a macro pattern for the overall shape of an overlying layer and, while oxide electrode template 164 is chosen to have a similar crystalline structure to ferroelectric dielectric layer 165, the oxide electrode template 164 does not necessarily "cause" a certain crystalline structure to be replicated in the ferroelectric dielectric layer.

Applicants, perhaps in-artful, explanation in the previous office action was attempting to convey that "template" in the phrase "oxide electrode template" is not used to recite any specific pattern or structural designation. Narrowing structural limitations are found in the dependent claims. The term "template" here is used in a broad sense to refer to some relational structure or pattern. The type of structure (or pattern) and what it is related or relative to is left to the dependent claims.

Even if "template" used alone in this matter was indefinite, the other terms used in conjunction with "template" (i.e., "oxide" and "electrode") provide sufficient definiteness to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In other words, using "template" in its broadest context as merely some structure, "oxide electrode template" becomes "oxide electrode structure" and the claim is still sufficiently definite so as to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to understand what is being claimed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9 and 18 are further definite as they additionally recite that the oxide electrode template and the ferroelectric dielectric comprise substantially similar crystalline structures, thus further defining the term "oxide electrode template".

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection and allowance of claims 1-22. If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at the below listed telephone number and address.

Respectfully submitted,



Jacqueline J. Garner
Reg. No. 36,144

Texas Instruments Incorporated
P. O. Box 655474, M.S. 3999
Dallas, Texas 75265
Phone: (214) 532-9348
Fax: (972) 917-4418